



# DRAFT MINUTES

## SENATE EDUCATION CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE

Monday, June 5, 2023 | 9:00 a.m. | 445 State Capitol

### Members Present:

Sen. Lincoln Fillmore, Chair  
Sen. Luz Escamilla  
Sen. Keith Grover  
Sen. David P. Hinkins  
Sen. John D. Johnson  
Sen. Ann Millner

### Members Absent:

Sen. Kathleen A. Riebe

### Staff Present:

Robert Wood, Policy Analyst  
Taylor Calabrese, Administrative Assistant

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

Chair Fillmore called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

### 1. Committee Business

**MOTION:** Sen. Hinkins moved to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2023, meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 3.

#### Yeas - 4

Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. A. Millner

#### Nays - 0

#### Absent - 3

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. K. Riebe

### 2. Review the Proposed Appointment of Javier Chavez Jr. for the Utah Board of Higher Education

Javier Chavez Jr. gave an opening statement on his experience and qualifications and answered questions from the committee.

**MOTION:** Sen. Millner moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate the appointment of Javier Chavez Jr. as a member of the Utah Board of Higher Education. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 2.

#### Yeas - 5

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. A. Millner

#### Nays - 0

#### Absent - 2

Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. K. Riebe

### 3. Review the Proposed Appointment of Amanda Covington for the Utah Board of Higher Education

Amanda Covington gave an opening statement on her experience and qualifications and answered questions from the committee.

**MOTION:** Sen. Escamilla moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate the appointment of Amanda Covington as a member of the Utah Board of Higher Education.  
The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 1.



Yeas - 6

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. A. Millner

Nays - 0Absent - 1

Sen. K. Riebe

#### 4. Review the Proposed Appointment of Jon Cox for the Utah Board of Higher Education

Jon Cox gave an opening statement on his experience and qualifications and answered questions from the committee.

**MOTION:** Sen. Hinkins moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate the appointment of Jon Cox as a member of the Utah Board of Higher Education.  
The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 6

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. A. Millner

Nays - 0Absent - 1

Sen. K. Riebe

#### 5. Review the Proposed Appointment of Sharon Eubank for the Utah Board of Higher Education

Sharon Eubank gave an opening statement on her experience and qualifications and answered questions from the committee.

**MOTION:** Sen. Millner moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate the appointment of Sharon Eubank as a member of the Utah Board of Higher Education.  
The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 5

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. A. Millner

Nays - 0Absent - 2

Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. K. Riebe

#### 6. Review the Proposed Appointment of Danny Ipson for the Utah Board of Higher Education

Danny Ipson gave an opening statement on his experience and qualifications and answered questions from the committee.

**MOTION:** Sen. Johnson moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate the appointment of Danny Ipson as a member of the Utah Board of Higher Education.  
The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 5

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. A. Millner

Nays - 0Absent - 2

Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. K. Riebe



## 7. Review the Proposed Appointment of Tina Larson for the Utah Board of Higher Education

Tina Larson gave an opening statement on her experience and qualifications and answered questions from the committee.

**MOTION:** Sen. Escamilla moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate the appointment of Tina Larson as a member of the Utah Board of Higher Education. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 5

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. A. Millner

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. K. Riebe

## 8. Review the Proposed Appointment of Steve Neeleman for the Utah Board of Higher Education

Steve Neeleman gave an opening statement on his experience and qualifications and answered questions from the committee.

**MOTION:** Sen. Millner moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate the appointment of Steve Neeleman as a member of the Utah Board of Higher Education. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 5

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. A. Millner

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. K. Riebe

## 9. Review the Proposed Appointment of Aaron Skonnard for the Utah Board of Higher Education

Aaron Skonnard gave an opening statement on his experience and qualifications and answered questions from the committee.

The following individuals provided public comment:

Rep. Carol S. Moss

**MOTION:** Sen. Escamilla moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate the appointment of Aaron Skonnard as a member of the Utah Board of Higher Education. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 4

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. A. Millner

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. K. Riebe

## 10. Adjourn

**MOTION:** Sen. Millner moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 3.



Yeas - 4

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. A. Millner

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. K. Riebe

Chair Fillmore adjourned the meeting at 12:13 p.m.